

reviewed. The operative results in these cases have been excellent, and the mortality exceedingly low.

Sir Berkeley makes a strong case for the surgical treatment of gastric and duodenal ulcer, but admits that certain ulcers heal under medical treatment.

Many of the cases treated medically recur; some develop the more serious complications, hemorrhage, perforation and malignancy, and the writer points out the great difficulty of keeping a patient who is free of pain and dyspepsia under the strict dietary regime for the time necessary to secure permanent healing.

In the final chapter the author states that physicians should acquaint themselves with the pathology of a living gastric and duodenal ulcer, as seen at operation, for only by such observation, can the physician realize how protracted and how scrupulous the medical treatment of so grave a lesion must necessarily be.

J. F. C.

The Examination of Patients. By Nellis B. Foster, M. D. 253 pp. Illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1923.

This small book is an excellent compendium of the technic of diagnosis. It is quite evident that it is founded upon a good many years of experience in teaching. For this reason it ought to be of great value to the student and also to the practitioner who wishes to refresh and standardize his methods. The methods of ordinary physical diagnosis are briefly but clearly described with adequate discussion of the significance of the various findings and combinations of symptoms. The technic is also given for various semi-surgical procedures such as paracentesis, spinal puncture, Schick test, etc. The illustrations add to the usefulness of the volume.

J. L. W.

Intranasal Surgery. By Fred J. Pratt and John A. Pratt. 334 pp. Illustrated. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company. 1924. Price, \$5.50.

The author states in the preface that the purpose in writing the book is to make the anatomical relations and the whole field of intranasal surgery simple and clear to the student, intern, and general practitioner, as well as for the beginning specialist.

The main criticism of the book is on this very point, namely, its descriptions, particularly anatomical descriptions are too short and vague to be clear. Even to one trained in this field, the anatomical descriptions in this book are apt to be confusing.

The chapter on the septum and the submucous resection of the septum operation is the only really good clear chapter in the book.

There are many good points of the author's own experience and observations which are both interesting and valuable.

H. A. F.

Cancer of the Breast. With a study of two hundred and fifty cases in private practice. By L. Duncan Bulkley. 336 pp. Illustrated. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co. 1924. Price \$3.50.

An extreme example of the process of drawing conclusions by twisting facts to fit a theory. The book is an unconvincing exposition of the author's conception of cancer as a constitutional disease caused by errors of metabolism and curable by dietary and medical measures. The case reports display the usual inadequacy of diagnosis and uncritical, optimistic interpretation of end-results. It will be fortunate if the book does not do positive harm in the hands of lay readers.

A. R. K.

The Anatomy of the Nervous System. From the standpoint of development and function. By Stephen W. Ranson. 2nd ed. 421 pp. Illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Co. 1924.

Several additions have been made in the revision of this work, notably the blood supply of the brain, and a dozen clinical histories taken as illustrative of lesions of important parts of the nervous system. The value of the latter addition is questionable. It should have been more thor-

oughly done or not at all. It is not complete enough to serve as a reference source for student or practitioner, and that is its chief excuse for being. The book remains an excellent reference work for the general reader. E. W. T.

Physical Diagnosis. By Richard C. Cabot. 8th ed. 836 pp. Illustrated. New York: William Wood & Company. 1923.

The eighth edition of Physical Diagnosis by Richard C. Cabot remains the standard text-book in physical diagnosis for medical students, and is of great value to the practitioner as well. This edition is made more attractive by the work on electrocardiography by Dr. Paul D. White, and is well supplemented by excellent reproductions of x-ray photographs.

Dr. Cabot has an excellent method for the graphic description of heart murmurs which should be more generally adopted in the teaching of medicine. There are a great many typographical errors which have escaped the eye of the proofreader, but these do not detract materially from the general worth of the text.

W. J. K.

Manual of the Diseases of the Eyes. By Charles H. May, M. D. 11th edition, revised. William Wood & Company.

What a splendid little book Doctor May has given to us. It is precisely what the family physician needs, and it is all he needs upon the special subject of diseases of the eye. Every physician who familiarizes himself with the contents of this little book of 400 pages will be able to do all that should be attempted by the family doctor.

Clinical Notes and Suggestions

A METHOD TO FACILITATE THE PASSAGE OF THE STOMACH TUBE

Pass a flat, one-eighth inch wide, two feet long, steel staff, protected on both cut ends with suitable rounded edged non-corrosive material for protective effect into the esophagus.

Take a stomach tube, with openings at the lower end and side, thread the staff through the lower end and side openings, the latter opening and staff thereby being anterior.

This will cause the tip of the tube to point posteriorly, avoiding a possible irritation of the posterior larynx by the tip of the tube. When the tube is well down into the esophagus the staff should be withdrawn.

Should there be suspected or actual narrowing of the entrance of the stomach, a longer staff could be used which would then act as a guide directly into the stomach. The necessary care, usual precautions and other approved measures observed.—Samuel Floersheim, M. D., Los Angeles.

Adrenalin, the original representative of the blood-pressure-raising or pressor principle of the suprarenal glands, introduced in 1901 by Parke, Davis & Co., has now an interesting group of offshoots—preparations which depend in whole or in part for their value as medicinal agents upon the adrenalin they contain.

There are Adrenalin Inhalant, Adrenalin Ointment, Adrenalin Suppositories, and, among the very latest and in some respects most remarkable combinations, an ointment which the manufacturers call Anesthone Cream because it has a local anesthetic effect in hay-fever, rhinitis, etc.; there is said to be enough adrenalin in the formula to check excessive secretion and exert a reducing effect on the inflammatory condition to which much of the local irritation is due.

Adrenalin itself has many important applications, among which are to be reckoned the control of asthmatic attacks and the restoration of heart action in cases of shock, or even apparent death.